

been partially or completely converted into a polymer containing vinylamine units by hydrolysis with acids or bases.

7. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 5, wherein the polymeric dispersants (B) used are polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, copolymers of ethylene glycol and propylene glycol, polyvinyl acetate, polyvinyl alcohol, polyvinylpyridine, polyvinylimidazole, polyvinylsuccinimide, polydiallyldimethylammonium chloride, polyethyleneimine and mixtures thereof.

8. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 5, wherein (A) N-vinylformamide, if desired together with other monoethylenically unsaturated monomers, and (B) polyethylene glycol, polyvinylpyrrolidone or mixtures thereof are polymerized at from 40 to 55°C with water-soluble azo initiators.